Appl. No. 10/064,983 Amdt dated November 7, 2003 Reply to Office Action of Sep 10, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner, in the Office Action mailed on August 10, 2003, allowed claims 1-27. However, with respect to newly added claims 28-34, the Examiner stated that these claims are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. Accordingly, claims 28-34 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Applicants agree with the Examiner's withdrawal of claims 28-34 from prosecution without prejudice.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned attorney at his number set out below.

Date: November 7, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 38,842

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